OTA Advisor E-Newsletter: Summer 2003

Welcome to the Massachusetts Office of Technical Assistance's (OTA) email newsletter, the OTA Advisor. This will provide information on major OTA initiatives, available tools and publications, upcoming workshops and events, and other news of interest to Toxics Use Reduction Act (TURA) filers and other toxic chemical users. An electronic version of the OTA Advisor, and other information on toxics use reduction in Massachusetts can be found on the OTA website at http://www.mass.gov/ota. If you have suggestions on how we can make the OTA Advisor more useful, or to add or remove your name from the mailing list, please email your request to maota@state.ma.us.

EOEA Environmental Justice Policy

On October 9, 2002, the Environmental Justice (EJ) Policy of the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs (EOEA) was signed into effect, which directs state resources to serve the high minority, non-English speaking and low-income neighborhoods across the state. Environmental justice is based on the principle that all people have a right to be protected from environmental pollution and to live in and enjoy a clean and healthy environment.

Consistent with the objectives of the policy, OTA continues to encourage the use of clean, efficient manufacturing practices by Massachusetts businesses by targeting its technical assistance and outreach efforts to the urban areas where EJ populations reside. OTA will also continue to offer its services to new and expanding facilities, particularly in these areas, through its "Right from the Start" program, which allows companies to engage OTA engineers and technical staff early in their planning stages to avoid or minimize any costly environmental liabilities that may be associated with the expansion project. Finally, OTA will work with other stakeholders – local groups, lending institutions, and other state economic development agencies – to promote opportunities to spur manufacturing that incorporate cleaner production practices in brownfields redevelopment and economic development projects in areas where EJ populations reside, and, where possible, to identify financial incentives for doing so. OTA believes this policy can be an important business investment and redevelopment opportunity for urban communities.

EOEA's EJ Policy can be found at
http://www.state.ma.us/envir/ej/environmentaljustice.htm

For additional information on OTA's role in the EJ Policy, contact Paul Richard, Director, at (617) 626-1042 or Paul.Richard@state.ma.us.

Chemical Security

In the interest of protecting the health and safety of the public from the threat of chemical attacks, chemical security has increasingly become a concern on the national forefront and here in Massachusetts. While chemical security has always been of prime importance to public health and welfare, it has become even more important now that emergency prevention must also contemplate potential terrorist activities. Chemical security efforts primarily focus on preventing the possibility of accidents, theft, and terrorist and criminal attacks on chemical sources, such as industrial facilities.

Fortunately, there are many opportunities to prevent these security threats, including pollution prevention.

Relying on existing and known methods for improving chemical efficiencies, managing chemicals safely, preventing chemical emergencies, and reducing the risk of accidental release of chemicals is now central to the national effort to improve domestic safety. Avoiding chemical accidents requires instituting better controls and reducing the presence of dangerous chemicals on site; these activities improve security and reduce overall risk. The EPA has developed outreach materials on chemical management. Through a grant from the US EPA Region 1—New England, OTA is incorporating these outreach materials into routine technical assistance activities. In addition, at all upcoming events which OTA sponsors or participates in, several industry sectors will be provided with information that clearly links pollution prevention with site security, as well as the business advantages of reducing risks. It is anticipated that the results of this project will enable both Massachusetts and US EPA Region 1—New England to refine programs in this critical area and deliver a model approach to reducing the chemical risk associated with various industry sectors for the Nation.

October 23rd – Save the Date for the Innovations in Manufacturing Workshop

The Massachusetts Manufacturing Extension Partnership announced a half-day workshop on environmentally friendly manufacturing techniques. Organized in cooperation with OTA and the Associated Industries of Massachusetts (AIM), the workshop combines case studies of successful "green manufacturing" initiatives with panel discussions by some of this sector's most recognized experts.

In four separate sessions, new technology developments will be highlighted for the biotech, casting and foundry, surface coatings, semiconductor, and plating industries. The program will feature technical presentations by speakers from the University of Massachusetts, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, MA Department of Environmental Protection, and industry. This event will be of interest to Research & Development, manufacturing/process engineering, and Environmental, Health & Safety personnel.

For more information about this workshop, please visit OTA's website at http://www.state.ma.us/ota/events.htm, or to register please contact Sue Lanza, OTA, at (617) 626-1068 or susan.lanza@state.ma.us.

OTA to Launch STAR Ò Training Center

OTA will soon launch a Spray Technique Analysis and Research (STAR®) Training Center at Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical School in Charlton, Massachusetts, in the greater Worcester area. The STAR® training center, developed by the Iowa Waste Reduction Center, uses education, training, and technology to improve spray application techniques by decreasing material consumption and increasing transfer efficiency. The STAR® Training Center will initially train ten spray finishing technicians, but will eventually be open to all those who are interested. OTA is establishing this training center through a Pollution Prevention Incentives for States (PPIS) grant from the US EPA Region 1—New England. As part of this effort, OTA will develop a fact sheet and CD-ROM on the STAR® program. Please visit the OTA website (see above) for updates. Currently, OTA is looking to fill the spots for the initial ten technicians. If you

are interested in participating in the training program or for additional information about this project, please contact Susan Leite, at (617) 626-1070, or Susan.Leite@state.ma.us.

New Case Studies

All case studies are available on OTA's website at www.mass.gov/ota/casestud.htm, or contact Chris MacIsaac, at (617) 626-1074 or Christopher.Macisaac@state.ma.us.

GKN Sinter Metals Corporation

The GKN Sinter Metals Corp. is the world's leading producer of structural powdered metal components for the automotive industry, with a facility located in Worcester, MA. The company implemented an on-site wastewater pre-treatment and recycling operation, including an ultra-filtration unit that reduced GKN's total fresh water consumption by over 8 million gallons per year and soap consumption by more than 6,000 gallons per year. They also reduced the concentration of copper, fat, oil, and grease to levels below the limits established by the local publicly owned treatment works. The installation of the pre-treatment system resulted in savings of over $78,000 per year.

http://www.state.ma.us/ota/CASES/GKN_SINTER.HTM

VH Blackinton

V.H. Blackinton & Co., Inc., located in North Attleboro, MA, is the largest manufacturer in the United States of metal uniform insignia such as badges, medals, and service pins. The company also makes jewelry and other metal plated novelties. By engaging company employees and working with vendors, along with the help of OTA, V.H. Blackinton eliminated the use of ozone depleting freon, trichloroethylene (TCE), ammonia, and volatile organic compounds (VOC). The company made substantial investments to modernize their plating and finishing operations, leading to significant reductions in water use and in the use of acids and bases in waste treatment and plating operations. As a result, V.H. Blackinton is no longer required to report under the TURA and have closed the loop on their wastewater discharge.

http://www.state.ma.us/ota/CASES/VH_Blackinton.htm

Cranston Print Works

The Webster, MA division of Cranston Print Works (CPW) prepares, prints, and finishes cotton and blended fabrics for the craft, home sewing, and interior decorating markets. The company achieved annual savings of over 110 million gallons of water and over $350,000 from the implementation of 25 water conservation projects. These savings are attributed to CPW's Water Conservation Team, which was formed in response to the company's commitment to continuous quality improvement.

http://www.state.ma.us/ota/CASES/Cranston_Update.HTM

InteliCoat Technologies

InteliCoat Technologies (formerly Rexam Image Products) located in South Hadley, MA, is a global leader in the manufacturing of precision-coated paper, film, and specialty substrates used in color digital imaging, electronic imaging, and component manufacturing. The company adopted solvent free coating processes for the manufacturing of about 60% of their product line. This included the development and commercialization of both water borne and 100% solids UV-cure coating technology. Since the mid-1990's, InteliCoat Technologies has invested over $20 million on product/process development and production improvements to support this new coating technology. This investment has resulted in an 88% reduction of air emissions from volatile organic compounds between 1990 and 2000. The savings from the reduction of raw materials are $1.25 million per year.

http://www.state.ma.us/ota/cases/InteliCoat.htm

Coyne Textile Services

Coyne Textile Services, located in New Bedford, MA, is an industrial laundry service that specializes in cleaning textile wipes, uniforms, and floor mats. The company used simple but effective toxics use reduction techniques that resulted in the reduction of over 19,000 pounds of chemicals and the conservation of 2 million gallons of water. This translates into over $25,000 in annual savings from the reduction of chemical use and wash loads, as well as additional savings from water conservation.

http://www.state.ma.us/ota/CASES/Coyne.htm

Insurance Incentives Program

The OTA is pleased to announce the addition of two more insurance carriers to the Environmental Insurance Incentives Program. Gulf Insurance Group and Liberty International Underwriters join AIG Environmental, Kemper Environmental, Zurich North America, and XL Environmental. All of the insurance providers, as part of the program, make available a range of incentives to those qualified businesses that demonstrate effective environmental management, such as implementation of a strong, certified Toxics Use Reduction Plan. For more information about the Environmental Insurance Incentives Program, please visit the OTA website at http://www.mass.gov/ota/eiip.htm

Boston Scientific and Natick High School Mentoring Partnership Acknowledged

On Friday, June 13, 2003, Environmental Affairs Undersecretary Gina McCarthy, Director of the Massachusetts Office of Technical Assistance Paul Richard, and Natick School Superintendent Jim Connolly recognized The Boston Scientific Corporation for its participation in the Massachusetts Mentoring Program for School Environmental Safety and Health. The Massachusetts Mentoring Program for School Environmental Safety and Health program brings industry expertise into local schools to create safer learning environments for students.

Boston Scientific has worked with members of Natick High School's Science Department to train teachers in the safe handling of chemicals in classrooms, preparation rooms, and chemicals storage areas. Boston Scientific and Natick High continue to work together to develop further safety initiatives.

The Mentoring Program has received requests to participate in the program from the following 13 public high schools: Amherst-Pelham, Attleboro, Chicopee, Dedham, Haverhill, Lee, Longmeadow, Natick, Narragansett Regional, Oakmont Regional, Quincy, Revere, Springfield, and Wayland. Nine of these communities have been matched with business mentors. If you are interested in participating in the program as a business mentor or for more information on the program, please contact Denise Zambrowski at 617-626-1071 or Denise.Zambrowski@state.ma.us .

New Technology in Process Seminars focusing on Industrial Water Conservation

Cranston Print Works – May 21, Webster, MA

The main focus of the seminar was on how a union/management team-oriented approach enabled Cranston Print Works, a textile printing facility, to achieve water savings not believed possible in the textile industry. The highlight of the seminar was a guided tour of the facility, which helped participants gain a thorough understanding of the more than 25 water conservation projects that have been implemented. The collective result of these projects is an annual savings of 110 million gallons of water and close to $350,000 in wastewater and energy costs.

Intel Massachusetts – June 12, Hudson, MA

The Intel Massachusetts semiconductor manufacturing facility in Hudson is currently producing the Pentium® 4 microprocessors. The participants learned about how Intel implemented numerous water conservation projects through a team-oriented approach. These projects ranged from simple administrative modifications to Ultra Pure Water Recycle Systems and resulted in an annual savings of over 50 million gallons of water. The seminar demonstrated the importance of water conservation and reuse strategies for successful business growth and maintaining a competitive edge in the face of limited water and wastewater capacity. A tour of the facility for the participants enabled them to gain a thorough understanding of the Ultra Pure Water Recycle system. While the focus of the seminar was towards ultra pure water applications in semiconductor manufacturing, Intel's approach and concepts are transferable to other industries, such as printed circuit manufacturing.

Both companies agreed to host another Technology in Process seminar next year. If you are interested in getting on the announcement list, please email Sue Lanza at Susan.Lanza@state.ma.us in order for her to send you an invitation once the events are scheduled.

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251 Causeway Street, Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114-2199
(617) 626-1060
(617) 626-1095 (fax)
maota@state.ma.us

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